

Senate Bill No. 245

CHAPTER 871

An act to amend Section 15007 of the Fish and Game Code, relating to fish.

[Approved by Governor October 12, 2003. Filed
with Secretary of State October 12, 2003.]

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 245, Sher. Fish.

Existing law provides that provisions in the Fish and Game Code relating to aquaculture do not permit ocean ranching, as defined. A violation of the code is a crime under existing law.

This bill would delete that provision and, instead, make it unlawful to spawn, incubate, or cultivate any species of finfish belonging to the family Salmonidae, transgenic fish species, or any exotic species of finfish in the waters of the Pacific Ocean that are regulated by this state. The bill would define "transgenic" and "exotic species" for these purposes. The bill would exempt certain salmon and steelhead trout from this prohibition. By changing the definition of an existing crime this bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.

This bill would provide that no reimbursement is required by this act for a specified reason.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. Section 15007 of the Fish and Game Code is amended to read:

15007. (a) In the waters of the Pacific Ocean that are regulated by this state, it is unlawful to spawn, incubate, or cultivate any species of finfish belonging to the family Salmonidae, transgenic fish species, or any exotic species of finfish. This section does not apply to salmon or steelhead trout reared from native California stocks that are propagated and cultured for either of the following:

- (1) Research conducted by, or on behalf of, the department; or
- (2) Release into ocean waters for the purpose of recovery, restoration, or enhancement of California's native salmon and steelhead trout



populations pursuant to Chapter 8 (commencing with Section 6900) of Part 1 of Division 6.

(b) Nothing in this section authorizes artificial propagation, rearing, or stocking of transgenic freshwater and marine fishes, invertebrates, crustaceans, or mollusks.

(c) As used in this section, “transgenic” has the same meaning as in Section 1.92 of Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations, as that section read on May 14, 2003.

(d) As used in this section, “exotic species” means a fish that is not native to California waters and that does not currently exist as a viable population in a wild condition in the state.

SEC. 2. No reimbursement is required by this act pursuant to Section 6 of Article XIII B of the California Constitution because the only costs that may be incurred by a local agency or school district will be incurred because this act creates a new crime or infraction, eliminates a crime or infraction, or changes the penalty for a crime or infraction, within the meaning of Section 17556 of the Government Code, or changes the definition of a crime within the meaning of Section 6 of Article XIII B of the California Constitution.

